

2025 Suggested Summer Resources

WBC Women's Ministry

Non-Fiction Books – click on the link to find more details.

June Summer Book Club Biography Selection:

[*The Watchmaker's Daughter: the true story of World War II heroine Corrie ten Boom*](#)

by Larry Loftis

If you have read *The Hiding Place*, you will love this biography of Corrie ten Boom, a Dutch watchmaker who saved the lives of hundreds of Jews during WWII—at the cost of losing her family and being sent to a concentration camp, only to survive, forgive her captors, and live the rest of her life as a Christian missionary.

[*Sent: how one ordinary family traded the American Dream for God's greater purpose*](#)

by Hilary Alan

During their comfortable, successful all-American lives that included active church involvement, the Alans realized they rarely heard from God. Read the story of how ordinary Christians, who accepted Jesus' command to "follow me" at face value, found that doing so changed everything. For you, the particulars will be completely different, but no less significant. Prepare to be challenged!

[*What They Meant for Evil: how a lost girl of Sudan found healing, peace and purpose in the midst of suffering*](#)

By Rebecca Deng

Follow the life of one of the first unaccompanied refugee children to enter the United States from South Sudan as Rebecca recounts her unimaginable journey as a Lost Girl. Her story is a lyrical, captivating portrait of a child hurled into wartime, and how through divine intervention, she came to America and found a new life full of joy, hope, and redemption.

[*Jesus through the Eyes of Women: how the first female disciples help us know and love the Lord*](#)

by Rebecca McLaughlin

Join Rebecca McLaughlin as she explores the life-changing accounts of women who met the Lord. By entering the stories of the named and unnamed women in the Gospels, this book gives us a unique lens to see Jesus as these women did and marvel at how he loved them in return.

[*Fearing Bravely: Risking Love for Our Neighbors, Strangers, and Enemies*](#)

by Catherine McNiel

The Christian community exists to declare and demonstrate God's love and to follow Jesus in practicing love over fear, even in unsafe times and places. Catherine writes with conviction, wisely guiding us to recognize our fear and, with God's help, not let it limit us to love courageously all who are among us.

[*A Praying Life: connecting with God in a distracting world*](#)

By Paul E. Miller

This highly recommended book is a prayer guide that has encouraged thousands of Christians to pursue a vibrant prayer life full of joy and power and has helped them learn how to pray faithfully and courageously. A life of prayer invites us to a life of connection to God. This book reminds readers that prayer is simply making conversation with God a rhythm of daily Christian life.

[*The Apostle: the life of Paul*](#)

by John Pollock

John Pollock is a master storyteller who makes Paul and his amazing story come alive, so that we can know the greatest apostle much as Luke and Timothy did as they traveled with him. As we follow along, we'll sense Paul's motives, his aims and priorities; what mattered to him; and what he was willing to die for.

[*I Dared to Call Him Father: the miraculous story of a Muslim woman's encounter with God*](#)

By Richard Schneider and Bilquis Sheikh

This fascinating true story of Bilquis Sheikh, a prominent Muslim woman, follows her unusual journey to a personal relationship with God. Originally published in 1978, this 25th anniversary edition includes an afterword by a missionary friend of Bilquis who plays a prominent role in the story and an appendix on how the East enriches the West.

[*Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools*](#)

By Tyler Staton

Prayer is the source of Jesus's most astonishing miracles and the subject of Jesus's most audacious promises, and yet, people find prayer to be boring, obligatory, or confusing. If you're feeling disheartened, disappointed, or distracted in your prayer life, let Tyler Staton guide as you learn to enjoy prayer in its purest form: a vital, sustaining, powerful connection with God that is more real and alive than you could have ever imagined.

Fiction Books – click on the link to find more details.

July Summer Book Club Fiction Selection:

[*Set the Stars Alight*](#)

by Amanda Dykes

Lucy Clairmont's family treasured the magic of the past, and her childhood fascination with stories of the high seas led her to become a marine archaeologist. But when tragedy strikes, it's an American forensic astronomer, and his knowledge of the stars that may help her unearth the truth behind the puzzle she's discovered in her family home.

[*The Extraordinary Deaths of Mrs. Kip*](#)

by Sara Brunsvold

In her debut novel, Sara Brunsvold delights us with this emotional multigenerational story that shows that the very best life is made up of thousands of little deaths to self. We will want to be just like Mrs. Kip when we grow up!

[*Between the Sound and the Sea*](#)

Amanda Cox

Every family has its secrets, and Joey Harris wouldn't mind if her family still had a few of their own. When an opportunity opens to become a temporary keeper of a decommissioned lighthouse on a North Carolina island, she takes the opportunity to escape the scrutiny of her small town to oversee its restoration. As Joey sifts through decades of rumors and legends and puts together the pieces of the past, a love story emerges--one that's clearly not over yet.

[*He Should have Told the Bees*](#)

Amanda Cox

This hopeful, heartwarming novel touches on complicated relationships, the value of friendship, and the impact of trauma with great heart and kindness. With an entangled past behind them and an uncertain future ahead, follow Beckett and Callie's journey to discover why they've been thrown together before all is lost.

[All that Really Matters](#)

by Nicole Deese

Molly's bright personality and on-trend fashion and beauty advice have earned her an impressive social-media following. When the opportunity arrives to host a makeover show for underprivileged youth, all her dreams appear to be coming true. As her once-narrow focus expands to include the deep needs of those she's serving...and perhaps the ones she's neglected inside herself, Molly will spend the summer discovering what really matters most

[Saving Grayson](#)

By Chris Fabry

Grayson Hayes doesn't remember things as well as he used to, but he's sure his time is running out. Diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's, he realizes he has a small window of time left to right a terrible injustice—he just can't remember what it is. Convinced of the importance of his mission, he embarks on a journey hoping he can put together the fractured pieces of his memory and set things right.

[Indigo Isle](#)

T. I Lowe

Sonny Bates left South Carolina fifteen years ago and never looked back. Now she's a successful Hollywood location scout who travels the world, finding perfect places for movie shoots. Home is wherever she lands, and between her busy schedule and dealing with her boss's demands, she has little time to think about the past . . . until her latest gig lands her a stone's throw from everything she left behind. This is a story of hanging on and letting go, of redemption and reconciliation, and of a love that heals the deepest wounds,

Books to Read with Children— click on the title to find more details.

All these books were recommended by Judi Turek, our Wheaton Bible Church librarian, and are available in our library.

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[Getting to Know Jesus for Little Ones](#) by Brad and Kathy Bright

[What Every Child Should Know about Prayer](#) by Nancy Guthrie (Part of a series by 10 Publishing that covers other topics.)

[Amy Carmichael: Can Brown Eyes be Made Blue?](#) by Catherine MacKenzie

[God's Very Good Idea](#) by Trillia Newbell

[Far from Home](#) by Sarah Parker Rubio

[Big Feelings Days: a book about hard things heavy emotions and Jesus' love](#) by Aubrey Sampson

[Gutsy Girls: Strong Christian Women who Impacted the World](#)—Gladys Aylward by Amy L. Sullivan

[Gutsy Girls: Strong Christian Women who Impacted the World](#)—Sisters Corrie and Betsie ten Boom by Amy L. Sullivan

[Any Time Any Place Any Prayer](#) by Laura Wifler

Podcasts– click on the link to find more details.

[**The Deep Rooted Marriage**](#) Dr. Dan Allender, renowned author and counselor, discusses the themes of his latest book: *The Deep Rooted Marriage: Cultivating Intimacy, Healing and Delight*. Dan shares the inspiration behind writing it and offers powerful insights into strengthening marriages.

[**Family Discipleship Podcast**](#)-- a podcast of imperfect parents having conversations about the critically important and mostly ordinary work of leading at home, hosted by Adam Griffin, Chelsea Griffin, and Cassie Bryant. Be sure to check out the episode from 9/27/21 that features Jen Wilkin.

[**Honestly with Bari Weiss**](#) Smartphones rewired childhood. Here's how to fix it.

[**Knowing Faith**](#)—a weekly podcast exploring the Christian story and Christian belief hosted by JT English, Jen Wilkin, and Kyle Worley

[**The Lazy Genius**](#)—Join Kendra Adachi as she chooses to be a genius about the things that matter and lazy about the things that don't.

[**Risen Motherhood**](#)—On each episode of the podcast, hosts Emily Jensen and Laura Wifler discuss relevant topics to everyday motherhood, through the lens of the gospel. (Note: the final episode aired in April, but there are many excellent past episodes to choose from.)

[**Women of the Word**](#)—a 10-session podcast that walks through methods, tips, and encouragement for studying the Bible more deeply so we might know and love the God of the Bible better, hosted by Jen Wilkin.

Online Resource:

<https://www.defendyoungminds.com/> They call it "digital self-defense." Let their best-selling books, curriculum, guides and newsletter help you raise empowered, resilient, screen-smart kids.